# IV.D. Narrative Information Sheet FY 21 Assessment Program

#### 1) Applicant Identification

2) Funding Requested

a) Organization Name: Sierra Institute for Community and Environmentb) Organization Address: P.O. Box 11, 4438 Main St. Taylorsville, Ca 95983

a) Grant Type: Community-wideb) Federal Funds Requested:

i) Total Requested: \$300,000.00ii) Site-Specific Waiver: N/A

#### 3) Location

a) City: All within Plumas County

b) County: Plumasc) State: California

#### 4) Property Information

N/A

#### 5) Contacts

**a)** Project Director:

i) Danielle Berry

ii) Phone Number: (530)284-1022

iii) Email Address: dberry@sierrainstitute.us

iv) Mailing Address: P.O. Box 11, 4438 Main St. Taylorsville, CA 95983

#### **b)** Executive Director:

i) Jonathan Kusel

ii) Phone Number: (530)284-1022

iii) Email Address: jkusel@sierrainstitute.us

iv) Mailing Address: P.O. Box 11, 4438 Main St. Taylorsville, CA 95983

#### 6) Population

a) Area of Target Populations: The targeted area for this project is rural forested community of Plumas county with a population of 16,999 people. Many of the cities or census designated places within Plumas County are relatively small; for example, population sizes of communities near the Sierra Institutes home base include: Greenville (pop. 1,108), Crescent Mills (pop. 287; City where project is located), and Taylorsville (pop. 244) [Total Population 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates].

### 7) Other Factors Checklist

| Other Factors  | Page #                                    |
|--|---|
|  | X; although many of the                   |
|  | populated areas to be served              |
| Community population is 10,000 or less.  | under the community wide                  |
|  | assessment grant are less than            |
|  | 10,000 people PG 1, 5                     |
| The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian  | X; If identified in community             |
| tribe or United States territory.  | engagement and site prioritization        |
| ,  | process a tribe may be engaged            |
| The priority brownfield site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred  | X; Plumas county is heavily               |
| land.  | impacted by mine scarred land             |
|  | but this proposal targets                 |
|  | abandoned mill and other industrial sites |
|  | industrial sites                          |
| The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the   |   |
| border of the proposed site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or | Narrativo na 1 2                          |
| partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street,  | Narrative pg. 1, 2                        |
| road, or other public thoroughfare separating them).   |   |
| The proposed site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.   | Narrative pg. 2                           |
| The reuse of the proposed cleanup site(s) will facilitate  |   |
| renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy;   | Narrative pg. 2, 3, 6                     |
| or will incorporate energy efficiency measures.  |   |
| 30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on   | See Narrative Budget Tasks 2 and          |
| eligible ruse planning activities for the priority brownfield  | 3   |
| site(s) within the target area.  |   |

### 8) Letter from the State Environmental Authority

Included in narrative attachments.

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Kevin Goss Plumas County Supervisor District 2



October 27, 2020

Re: FY2021 U.S. EPA Assessment Grant Program

To whom it may concern:

As the Plumas County District 2 Supervisor, I acknowledge and support the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment's (Sierra Institute's) application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfield Assessment grant program to be focused on Plumas County.

Over the past several years, Sierra Institute has successfully navigated the Brownfield assessment and remediation process on the 28-acre site in Crescent Mills, California. I've been impressed with site cleanup and redevelopment. This work aligns closely with Plumas County's mission to preserve the environment and enhance public health through outreach, education, collaborative planning, and sensible applications of environmental health principles, laws, and statues. The proposal aligns with the County's General Plan which seeks to 1) create and retain jobs, and reinvest wealth through our economy, community, and natural resources; 2) improve health and well-being of all Plumas County residents; and 3) promote a future for Plumas County citizens in which land use decisions balance social, economic, and natural resource health.

Once remediated, Sierra Institute plans to facilitate the establishment of businesses on site that will use a variety of technologies to generate value added wood products out of low value biomass material coming from forest and watershed restoration projects on surrounding forested land. The transformation of the Crescent Mills site to an integrated wood products campus may is a model as both a cleanup effort and as a redevelopment project to be replicated throughout Plumas County and beyond as a means to address declining forest health and socioeconomic conditions. Through their dedication to the Crescent Mills project, Sierra Institute has acquired the expertise necessary facilitate a larger county-scale brownfield assessment effort as proposed under their application to the FY2021 Brownfield Assessment grant program. Identifying key brownfield sites and initiating assessment efforts is a critical step towards economic revitalization in our impoverished rural communities throughout Plumas County.

The Sierra Institute staff have maintained a record of effectively engaging the Board and community members in their endeavors and readily provide opportunities to comment on and influence projects in both planning and implementation stages. As a non-profit focused on community-based projects and collaborative management, Sierra Institute is well versed in community wide assessments and multi-stakeholder engagement strategies that are crucial to effectively carrying out a Brownfield community assessment project. The County has enjoyed opportunities to collaborate on projects such as these with the Sierra Institute and looks forward to more of this needed work in the county. I strongly recommend your support for this important project and thank you for considering it.

Sincerely,

Kevin Goss, Chair Board of Supervisors

#### PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

The Target Area, Plumas County, is a mountainous environment with clean water, clean air and beautiful natural surroundings and geologic wonders. It has a long, rich history of Native Maidu inhabitation, along with multi-generational families including ranchers, loggers, and residents who moved from urban areas to enjoy more peaceful, mountain settings to raise their families. Plumas County lies at the intersection of the northern Sierra Nevada and southern Cascade mountain ranges. The county is covered with over a million acres of forestland, roughly 80% of which is federally-owned. The area is also the headwaters of the Feather River, a source watershed for the State Water Project that serves approximately 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland.

The Target Area, like other rural forested counties, has struggled socioeconomically as a result of the compounding effects of the declining timber, mining, and building industries, and the Great Recession of 2008. While impacts are variable across the county because of quite different socioeconomic conditions from one community to the another, they have been exacerbated by climate change, drought, and catastrophic wildfire. In 2020, the USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station reported that Tree Mortality in California totaled 129 million trees between 2010-2017 as a result of prolonged drought, higher temperatures and altered forest conditions. Intense fire suppression has created a landscape with increasingly dense forests more susceptible to catastrophic wildfire and declining watershed and forest health. In 2020, 8,100 fires California burned 3.9 million acres, destroyed 7,500 structures and claimed 30 lives. Plumas County was ground zero for one of the largest fires, totaling almost 320,000 acres, and faced numerous other fires that threatened multiple communities.

Improvements in forest health require wood utilization infrastructure. In addition to the challenges presented by declining socioeconomic conditions, local revitalization and redevelopment efforts are compromised by a lack of industrial sites suitable for development. Plumas County is mostly public land, with private parcels situated on rough terrain or located far from key transportation routes, complicating and driving up development costs. For these reasons, communities in this region rarely garner support from investors and have been challenged to improve socio-economic conditions since the mid-1980's. The formerly robust wood products industry left a legacy of abandoned industrial sites that have been vacant for over 25 years. These sites often require remedial actions prior to redevelopment – a time consuming and expensive process, and one few communities can afford.

Description/Identification of the Priority Brownfield Site(s) Specific brownfield sites have not yet been identified for assessment efforts within the Target Area though a number of candidate sites exist. Once a thriving wood products focused county, abandoned mill sites now lie scattered throughout Plumas County, some in the more impoverished communities. The communities of Sloat, Greenville, and Twain all have prominent but unused or abandoned former mill sites that offer opportunities for development. A number of these sites are needed for redevelopment because of the need for wood processing to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and lack of available industrial sites. Economic challenges facing the county underscore the need for redevelopment.

The Plumas County Board of Supervisors, Planning Department and Planning Commission, along with the Department of Environment Health have all recognized the need to develop an inventory of abandoned and potentially contaminated sites in order to advance desperately needed economic development, as well as ensure the safety or residents adjacent to these sites. The county and its agencies lack the funding and capacity to do this work. The Plumas County General Plan specifically identifies abandoned industrial sites as opportunity to aid in redevelopment and economic revitalization efforts and further encourages that abandoned sites are re-used instead of developing new areas. Through experience gained on assessing and cleaning up an abandoned mill site in Crescent Mills, California (located within Plumas County), Sierra Institute has developed a repository of information on common contaminates associated with abandoned mill sites. For example, arsenic and total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) contamination may result from mill practices such as spreading oil and incinerator ash on the roadways, and chemical treatments of wood products. Alternatively, contaminants may also have been present in the import fill material brought to industrial sites to raise the surface grade. If present, this material was likely derived from off-site gold mining operations that are commonly associated with the presence of arsenic.

During the initial stages of its exploration of viable sites for a wood utilization campus, Sierra Institute worked with the county and contractors to identify potential sites in Plumas County; several were historic mills sites. Sierra Institute will build upon this work and in concert with Plumas County agencies will inventory known and potential brownfield sites in Plumas County. The focus will be on identifying industrial sites best suited for redevelopment along with advancing understanding of human health risk posed by a site. Once an initial inventory is developed, Sierra Institute will further collaborate with the county agencies and community leaders to prioritize sites based on development potential, environmental and health risks, ownership, and proximity to forest land.

Most if not all of the brownfield sites in Plumas County lie within the Feather River Watershed. This watershed is a critical contributor to California's State Water Project and provides an average of 3.2 million acre-feet of water per year to downstream urban, industrial, and agricultural users. Many of these sites, similar to the Crescent Mills site, may lie within a federally designated 100-year flood plain. Heavy and recurrent flooding may result in contaminated soil being repeatedly washed into the creek and the Feather River resulting in negative environmental impacts to humans and wildlife. Impacts include potential exposure to suspended sediment or dissolved contaminants, and poorer populations that rely on contaminated fish they catch in area streams and lakes. The latter underscores the importance of identifying and remediating contaminated sites.

Revitalization of the Target Area: Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans SI has been working to redevelop the property in Crescent Mills into an integrated wood utilization campus for the past six years with its partners as described below (see 2.b.i & ii). This effort may serve as a model reuse strategy for sites identified during this assessment process. These campuses utilize a variety of technologies to create value-added wood products from low-value woody material from forest restoration and fire risk reduction efforts. Businesses to be developed may include: Dried/packaged firewood operation, cross-laminated timber production, and a community-scale bioenergy facility that will burn chips to sell electricity to Pacific Gas & Electric pursuant to the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff program. Plumas county lies in one of the most productive wood baskets of California, hence, brownfields identification and site redevelopment can support badly needed forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction activities, and helping to reduce fire risk in this high-hazard, high risk area.

The proposed reuse of properties identified through this assessment aligns with the Plumas County General Plan ("General Plan"), which calls for greater utilization of biomass to reduce forest fuel buildup and to increase use of renewable fuels while reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Remediation and redevelopment of the Property is supported by the County Board of Supervisors, Community Development Commission, and Department of Environmental Health, and will help to achieve the goals of the General Plan: 1) Create and retain jobs, and reinvest wealth through our economy, community, and natural resources; 2) Improve health and well-being of all Plumas County residents; and 3) Promote a future for Plumas County citizens in which land use decisions balance social, economic, and natural resource health.

The proposed reuse of these properties also aligns with California Governor Brown's October 2015 Emergency Proclamation on tree mortality and the work of the Forest Management Task Force focused on increasing forest restoration and utilization of biomass. This reuse also comports with the California Natural Resources Agency's SB 859 Wood Products Working Group Recommendations to Expand Wood Products Markets in California (2017) that outlined three goals: 1) Remove state barriers and create pathways to success, focusing on challenges to redeveloping sites 2) Promote innovation, focusing on building the institutional infrastructure necessary to bring new wood products to market, and 3) Invest in human capital, building the necessary workforce to staff new wood products operations. These recommendations are advanced in the California's 2018 Forest Carbon Plan and the Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation's recommendations for woody biomass utilization to be presented to the Board of Forestry in November 2020 that includes: "to identify any statutes that unnecessarily restrict the conversion of brownfield sites to forest product and/or bioenergy facilities" and "to create brownfields coordinators to support local governments to redevelop these sites."

Plumas County is within the sphere of influence of the Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp) which identifies biomass utilization as one of two region wide development priorities and calls for "the continued exploration of the economic, environmental and triple bottom-line benefits of managing our forest by-product material." SI prioritizes utilizing sustainable development practices in the planning redeveloping sites. For example, developing wood utilization businesses on site provides not only a local outlet for forest biomass material, but it reduces pile burning in the woods that releases harmful emissions and improves air quality for Plumas County residents. Eastern Plumas County is currently classified as a "non-attainment" area, meaning it is in violation of clean air standards. Operations such as chip sorting and storage would accept small diameter trees and other woody biomass from local forest restoration and wildland-urban interface (WUI) fuels reduction projects.

Outcome and Benefits of Reuse Strategy The identification and assessment of brownfield sites for future redevelopment as wood utilization campuses will catalyze community revitalization in the Plumas County. Proposed operations include an assortment of business will increase the value of low value woody material that, in turn, will increase restoration and fire risk reduction activities. At the heart of these campuses may be 3-5 MW bioenergy facilities that will utilize biomass as a renewable energy source, supply power to the grid and excess heat from facility for other product and business operations. Facilities are being planned that can produce low carbon fuels from biomass and help California achieve its carbon neutrality goals. Jobs resulting from assessment, cleanup, campus wood utilization development will spur local economic development and support a diverse range of skill sets including but not limited to: forestry, social and environmental specialists, haulers, facility operators, and a variety of managerial and administrative positions.

Creating an inventory of potential sites and initiating the assessment process will facilitate the expeditated remediation and socioeconomic revitalization that Plumas County needs. At full build out, these campuses may:

- 1) Provide an outlet for dead trees from prolonged drought and beetle kill and small diameter understory tress that are widespread across the Sierra Nevada and posing a fire hazard;
- Increase the capacity of and incentive for local forest managers to conduct forest and watershed restoration efforts and hazardous fuels reduction treatments - thereby improving forest health and increasing carbon sequestration in northern Sierra Nevada forests;
- 3) Improve air quality for local residents by reducing the amount of forest biomass burned;
- 4) strengthen the local economy through development of new wood-product businesses;
- 5) Increase jobs for socioeconomically-depressed communities in Plumas County—the assessment and cleanup will generate a temporary work opportunity for at least 6-8 people.

Strategy for Leveraging Resources: Resources Needed for Site Reuse SI has been successful in securing funding from a variety of sources to carry out previous assessment, cleanup and redevelopment projects similar to those proposed as a part of this work (see Table 1 below). Funds under this proposal would imitate assessment efforts crucial to stimulating additional funds for site work. SI will continue to seek funds to support continued assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment efforts in partnership with Plumas County agencies.

Table 1: Funds Leveraged to Support SI's Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment Efforts

| Source                               | Funding Name                        | Purpose/Products  | Amount    | Status               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|----------------------|
| U.S. EPA                             | Targeted Brownfields                | Phase I, Phase II, and Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup   | \$200,000 | Secured,             |
|                                      | Assessment 2014                     | Alternatives  |           | completed            |
| Sierra Nevada                        | Proposition 84 Grant                | Site development and mechanical work for wood chip  | \$350,000 | Secured,             |
| Conservancy                          | Program 2015                        | operations  | \$330,000 | completed            |
| U.S. Forest<br>Service               | Wood Innovations<br>Grant 2016      | Site engineering and planning for development of a bioenergy facility and wood utilization campus at the Crescent Mills site. | \$250,000 | Secured, in progress |
| Northern Sierra<br>Partnership funds | 2017                                | For purchase of Crescent Mills site   | \$191,500 | Secured, completed   |
| Ca Department of Toxic               | Targeted Site<br>Investigation 2017 | Crescent Mills site characterization  | \$149,000 | Secured, completed   |

| Substance<br>Control |                                      |  |           |                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|
| U.S. EPA             | Brownfields<br>Assessment Grant 2017 | Crescent mills site characterization and cleanup planning  | \$200,000 | Secured, in progress |
| U.S. EPA             | Brownfields Cleanup<br>Grant 2018    | Funding to clean up three brownfields sites in Crescent<br>Mills, Ca   | \$600,000 | Secured, in progress |
|                      | Western Conservation<br>program 2019 | To advance wood utilization campuses and associated state rural and natural resource policy  | \$95,000  | Secured, in progress |
| U.S. EPA             | Brownfields Cleanup<br>Grant 2020    | Funding to clean up two Brownfields sites in Crescent<br>Mills, Ca   | \$500,000 | Secured, in progress |
| INIEITA NEVAGA       | Communities Program                  | Crescent Mills site development and mechanical work<br>for wood chip operations along with support for another<br>biomass boiler in Plumas County. | \$937,075 | Secured, in progress |

*Use of Existing Infrastructure* Many of the abandoned industrial sites in Plumas County offer an excellent and needed foundation for brownfields remediation and wood products campus redevelopment as they are often zoned for industry and co-located with auxiliary resources (e.g., rail road lines, highways, power stations).

#### COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Plumas County has been designated as one of fifteen "Frontier Counties" of California due to its small population and geographic isolation. A majority of the county's 18,699 residents live in or near the four major communities: Portola, the only incorporated city; Quincy, the county seat; Greenville, the largest community in Indian Valley; and Chester. Table 2 below provides data on selected sociodemographic measures from the 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates and 2017 ACS Estimates that highlight social and economic hardships in the Target Area and several smaller communities within the Target Area. Like other rural forested counties in California and throughout the U.S., Plumas County struggled economically even before the Great Recession of 2008, and mirrors historical stagnant timber industry communities throughout the Pacific West. Notably, the July 2020 unemployment totals, also shown in the table, are two and three times higher than unemployment rates from the previous year, reflecting a downturn in the Plumas County economy associated with the COVID-19 contraction. Local unemployment typically doubles in the winter due to seasonality of work in the area. With the erosion of jobs, Plumas County's population has been decreasing over the past decade. Also common to other rural forested areas, the economic downturn associated with the Great Recession was more severe and took longer to climb out of than urban areas.

Greenville, at 1,108 people, is one of the more impoverished communities in the county. The ACS estimates a poverty rate of 18.3% (compared to 11.67% for Plumas County and 14.3% for California). The Target Area far exceeds national, state, county, and local poverty rates with 26.3% of the community below the poverty level. Eligibility among children for Free or Reduced-Price Meals in Indian Valley is approximately 56.9% for the 2019-2020 school year, 6.3% higher than the 2018-2019 school year (Education Data Partnership, 2020).

Table 2: Selected demographic factors comparing the Target Areas (Crescent Mills, Greenville, and Taylorsville) against

regional, state, and national standings.

| regional, state, and national s      | turium 80.         |                        |                        |                       |                              |                           |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Demographic Factors                  | United States      | California             | IPhimae County         | Crescent<br>Mills CDP | Greenville<br>CDP            | Taylorsville<br>CDP       |
| · ·                                  | 322,903,030        | 39,148,760             | 18,699                 | 287                   | 1,108                        | 244                       |
|                                      | *                  | \$ 71,228 <sup>1</sup> | \$ 53,270 <sup>1</sup> | -                     | \$<br>29,328.00 <sup>2</sup> | \$ 81,277.00 <sup>2</sup> |
| American Indian and Alaska<br>Native | 0.8%               | 0.8%                   | 2.3%                   | 27.9%                 | 5.0%                         | 0.0%                      |
| Hispanic or Latino                   | 17.8%              | 38.9%                  | 8.7%                   | $6.8\%^{3}$           | 5.0% <sup>3</sup>            | $0.0\%^{3}$               |
| Unemployment Rate <sup>3 4</sup>     | 10.5% <sup>4</sup> | 13.9% <sup>4</sup>     | 11.2% <sup>4</sup>     | -                     | $2.5\%^{3}$                  | 33.3% <sup>3</sup>        |
| Below Poverty Level                  | 14.0%              | 14.3%                  | 11.67%                 | 26.3%³                | 18.3%³                       | $0.0\%^{3}$               |

| Households Receiving Cash |       |       |      |            |             |            |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Public Assistance or Food | 12.9% | 10.2% | 9.0% | $13.9\%^3$ | $7.3\%^{3}$ | $21.9\%^3$ |
| Stamps/SNAP               |       |       |      |            |             |            |

Source: 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates except where noted.

- (-) no data available
- 1. Dollar amount in 2018 inflation adjusted dollars. Data from 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates.
- 2. Dollar amount in 2018 inflation adjusted dollars. Data from 2017 ACS Estimates.
- 3. Data from 2017 ACS Estimates. (Not available from 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates.)
- 4. Civilian population in labor force 16 years and over: <sup>3</sup>American Community Survey 2017; <sup>4</sup> CA Employment Development Department, July 2020 totals.

Until recently, the impacts of the declining timber industry were softened by a coinciding increase in tourism and construction of second homes in Plumas County. Plumas County retained some timber industry due to the presence of two mills, but the local economy shifted from a resource-based economy to one dependent on construction and service industry jobs. The Great Recession worsened economic conditions in Plumas County, and unemployment reached a high point of 16.8% in 2010, with some communities experiencing rates over 20%. Newly rising unemployment rates suggest a repeat of economic decline, underscoring the need for re-development.

Plumas County has no economic development agency. This fact, along with the remoteness of the Indian Valley area and the small and largely impoverished local population, make it difficult to raise capital or attract businesses and entrepreneurs to advance business development and remediate sites such as Crescent Mills. Beyond the impoverished nature of Plumas County, this funding is essential because the applicant is a non-profit organization lacking the reserves to complete this work. The past six years of work by SI has launched remediation and community revitalization efforts on what would otherwise have remained a vacant, contaminated site.

Threats to Sensitive Populations: Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations Sociodemographic indicators comparing the Target Area to state, regional, and national standings reveal that the Target Area is within the 56<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, and 57<sup>th</sup> percentiles respectively for low-income populations; the 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup> percentile respectively for minority populations; the 88<sup>th</sup> percentile for children (under age of 5), and 51<sup>st</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup> percentile respectively for persons over the age of 64. In addition, the American Indian population of Crescent Mills (27.9%) far exceeds county (2.3%), state (0.8%), and national (0.8%) levels. Beyond pockets of Native Americans and LatinX in eastern Plumas County, ethnic diversity is low, but with pockets of significant poverty and wealth, income diversity is quite high.

Greater than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions Compared to national data, Plumas County is within the 54th percentile for NATA Air Toxics Cancer Risk and 53<sup>rd</sup> percentile for NATA Respiratory Hazard Index, but typically these data ignore episodic and hazardous smoke events common with open pile burning and wildfire. Emergency department visits due to asthma in Plumas County exceed state occurrences with 61.1 per 10,000 people, a number on the rise given massive wildfire and smoke events in 2020. In 2015, 100% of 72 children examined tested positive for childhood lead poisoning and in 2016 11.6% of the adult population was diabetic (up 2% from the previous year). Historically, Plumas County also has a higher death rate 302 people per 100,000 when compared to the state (151) and the nation (185) (CDC Cancer Data 2013). Common throughout rural communities of the Sierra, health statistics often fail to accurately reflect conditions because the most serious cases are transferred to hospitals handling high risk patients.

Disproportionately Impacted Populations Plumas County residents have repeatedly endured social, environmental, economic, and health impacts associated with large wildfires. Recent large fires include: the 2007 Moonlight Fire that burned 65,000 acres on its northeastern border; the 2012 Chips Fire located 10 miles away along the west shore of Lake Almanor that burned over 75,000 acres and shut down the tourist season for the month of August; the 2019 Walker Fire that burned 54,000 acres along the Valley's eastern border and created extremely dense and hazardous smoke in the valley for over two weeks, and the 2020 North Complex Fire that has burned just under 319,000 acres and with the Sheep and Hog fire to the north layered dense smoke in Plumas County for much of August and September in 2020.

Smoke from fires expose the population to unhealthy levels of four primary pollutants: 1) particulate matter (PM 2.5 and PM 10), 2) ground level ozone, 3) carbon monoxide, and 4) black carbon, all of which can contribute to increased rates of respiratory, cardiovascular, and other illnesses, particularly for residents with underlying health issues. This is exacerbated where poverty is high and access to health care services in limited. In addition to the negative environmental and health impacts caused by wildfires, Plumas County residents are also impacted by open pile burning. Open pile burning ranges from pile burning of thinned material in the forest to backyard burning of wood waste. Poorly managed burning contributes to poor air quality and can lead to forest fires. Confined boiler burning of woody biomass can reduce criteria pollutants by 100x compared to open pile burning (Springsteen 2011, Emission Reductions from Woody Biomass Waste for Energy as an Alternative to Open Burning). Thus, remediation and campus development will help reduce resident health impacts aggravated by previous industrial activities and residual heavy metals and other current environmental hazards. As mentioned above, the eastern portion of Plumas County is a non-attainment airshed. Assessment and redevelopment of brownfield sites in Plumas County as a network of wood products campuses with a biomass-fired combined heat and power facility will provide a local outlet for woody biomass – and, as a result, simultaneously improve air quality for the above sensitive populations while producing renewable energy (and reducing fossil fuel use).

Community Engagement / Project Involvement and Project Roles Sierra Institute launched its first work in Plumas County in 2013 conducting an energy efficiency and renewables management planning process with nine leaders from across the county. The year-long process funded by the California Energy Commission led to the Plumas County Energy Efficiency and Renewables Management Action Plan (PEER MAP), with biomass identified as a top renewable pathway, among other outcomes. Sierra Institute bioenergy work flowed from this project. Working with county officials and experts, and key community leaders we envision a similar effort to identify brownfield sites, establish a priority list, and determine sites to conduct Phase I and II assessments. Other participants and roles in the project advisory body:

| Partner Name / contact  | Description / Specific Role in the Project   |
|---|--|
|   |  |
| Plumas County Board of Supervisors: Kevin Goss, Chair, (b) (6) & Lori Simpson, (b) (6) (b) (6)  | All supervisors support redevelopment, especially the development of wood utilization businesses. These two have been champions.   |
| Plumas County Department of Environmental Health:<br>Rob Robinette, quincyenv@countyofplumas.com,<br>(530) 283-6355                                   | Provides technical and permitting assistance for assessment and cleanup efforts.   |
| Plumas County Community Development<br>Commission<br>(530) 283-2466   | Is the awardee of the 2017 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant<br>under which they coordinate assessment efforts with sub-<br>awardees (SI and Sierra Streams Institute)   |
| Plumas County Planning Department Tracey Ferguson, traceyferguson@countyofplumas.com, (530) 283-7011  | Provides technical and permitting assistance for cleanup and redevelopment efforts.  |
| U.S. Forest Service: Dave Kinateder, david.kinateder@usda.gov, 530-283-7671   | Supports the development of a local wood products campus that can utilize small diameter trees and other woody biomass from forest restoration projects.   |
| Plumas County Fire Safe Council: Hannah Hepner, plumasfiresafe@plumascorporation.org, (530) 927-5281  | Coordinates with the SI to identify outlets for forest biomass<br>coming from their fuels reduction projects. Crescent Mills has<br>already been used to store chips from a local WUI fuels<br>reduction project for use in the Quincy boiler. |
| Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR): Ignacio Dayrit, ignacio.dayrit@cclr.org, (415) 728.3848  | Has supported assessment and cleanup efforts to date. Provides technical assistance on the cleanup process and provides connections to experienced brownfield professionals.   |
| Crescent Mills, Greenville, & Taylorsville CDPs, N/A*   | Supplies information regarding historic site uses. Provides input on future development ideas and community needs.   |
| * There are a few community organizations in the valley due to the small size; SI frequently reaches out to various community members for engagement. |  |

Incorporating Community Input The project will implement a community engagement process in Plumas County. Due to the small and dispersed nature of Plumas County, it can be challenging to reach a large audience and engage others especially in light of COVID-19. With this in mind, SI will rely on

longstanding contacts in county agencies and in communities across the county to share the project and establish an advisory group. Development of this proposal was conducted in consultation with the Plumas County Board of Supervisors, heads of both the Planning Department and Environmental Health, and a member of the county Planning Committee, among others.

Sierra Institute has extensive experience with public involvement locally with our Crescent Mills project, the PEER MAP project discussed above, and a county-wide health care project that focused on the LatinX population in eastern Plumas County for which we held bilingual meetings. Sierra Institute will pursue diverse participation using COVID-19 responsive means (e.g., Zoom, and other electronic meeting and communications modes), to assure there are ample and diverse opportunities to engage stakeholders and secure feedback throughout the project. Outreach will be conducted to identify sites, and continue throughout the cleanup process, to keep the community apprised of brownfields prioritization and assessment work. Strategies to engage and inform community include: virtual community meetings, press releases in the local on-line "newspaper," social media updates, flyers, and web-based information. To mitigate exposure and risk associated with Covid-19, SI will prioritize virtual outreach and socially distant events.

The local news agency, Feather Publishing, has tracked progress on Crescent Mills redevelopment. SI will continue to communicate closely with reporters so updates are published in the paper to educate and inform the local community. SI will continue to update their "Brownfields Program" section on its website that provides regular updates and resources for other rural forested communities interested or already engaged in brownfield redevelopment. Relevant project updates will be shared directly with the county Board of Supervisors, agencies and other local government personnel.

Results and lessons learned from the project will also be shared by SI with its network of 18 forest landscape collaboratives from across California. Dissemination of information and resources with these groups and associated communities will increase awareness of brownfields work This work will help build rural community capacity and success associated with brownfield assessment, site redevelopment and forest biomass utilization.

#### TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

#### Task 1: Programmatic Management, Oversight and Reporting

- i. Project Implementation: provides funds for SI staff project management and oversight costs, including, managing the project budget and contractors as appropriate, communication with EPA project officer, development of progress reports (consistent with EPA reporting requirements and process), development of the final project report, and managing other project activities as needed.
- ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: FY Quarter 3 2021 to FY Quarter 2 2024
- iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Jonathan Kusel & Danielle Berry
- iv. Output(s): Performance reports, final report, photos
- Task 2: County and Community Engagement and Outreach
- i. Project Implementation: funds for SI staff to lead stakeholder and community engagement efforts to conduct community assessment and identification of brownfield sites, inform community members through various media, and solicit input on prioritization framework and available data.
- ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: FY Quarter 3 2021 to FY Quarter 2 2024
- iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Jonathan Kusel & Danielle Berry
- iv. Output(s): Presentations, outreach, and engagement documentation.
- Task 3: Inventory, Prioritization, and Initial Findings and Recommendations for Plumas County Brownfield sites.
  - i. Project Implementation: Provides funds for SI to lead inventory of brownfield sites for Plumas County (targeting abandoned mill sites and other industrial sites). Prioritization of brownfield sites based on community environmental and socioeconomic needs and development potential. Initial Recommendation report documenting findings.
  - ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: FY Quarter 3 2021 to FY Quarter 2 2024
  - iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Jonathan Kusel & Danielle Berry
  - iv. iv. Output(s): Inventory of brownfield sites for Plumas County (targeting abandoned mill sites and other industrial sites). Prioritization of brownfield sites based on aforementioned needs. Initial Findings and Recommendations for Plumas County Brownfield sites. Map development.

Task 4: Assessments

- *i.* Project Implementation: Provides funds for SI to oversee the completion of assessments on priority sites, for Subawardee to carry out assessment activities, and for the County to assist with assessment activities.
- ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: FY Quarter 3 2021 to FY Quarter 2 2024
- iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Jonathan Kusel & Danielle Berry & subaward representative
- *iv.* iv. Output(s): 6 Phase 1 Assessments and appropriate documentation, 2 Phase II assessments and appropriate documentation. 2 Remedial Action Workplans. A multi-site sampling analysis plan and quality assurance plan.

#### Cost Estimates

|        |                 |  | Projec                           | t Tasks (\$)  |              | Total     |
|--------|-----------------|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------|
| Bu     | dget Categories | Task 1: Project<br>Management<br>and Reporting | Task 2:<br>Community<br>Outreach | Task 3: Inventory, Prioritization, and<br>Initial Findings and<br>Recommendations for Plumas County<br>Brownfield Sites | Assessments  |           |
|        | Personnel       | \$27,900                                       | \$32,760.00                      | \$38,580  | \$14,760     | \$114,000 |
|        | Fringe Benefits | \$0  | \$0                              | \$0   | \$0          | \$0       |
| osts   | Travel          | \$1,030.08                                     | \$308.56                         | \$1,654.80  | \$1,236.56   | \$4,230   |
| ct C   | Equipment       | \$0  | \$0                              | \$0   | \$0          | \$0       |
| Direct | Supplies        | \$500  | \$1,500                          | \$0   | \$0          | \$2,000   |
| Ι      | Contractual     | \$0  | \$0                              | \$0   | \$0          | \$0       |
|        | Other           | \$3,000  | \$4,500                          | \$37,740  | \$134,530    | \$179,770 |
| Dir    | ect Costs       | \$32,430.08                                    | \$39,068.56                      | \$77,974.80   | \$150,526.56 | \$300,000 |
| Ind    | irect Costs     | \$0  | \$0                              | \$0   | \$0          | \$0       |
| 209    | % Cost Share    | \$0  | \$0                              | \$0   | \$0          | \$0       |
| Tot    | al Budget       | \$32,430.08                                    | \$39,068.56                      | \$77,974.80   | \$150,526.56 | \$300,000 |

#### Task 1: Programmatic Management, Oversight, and Reporting

- -Personnel Costs: \$27,900 for SI staff time including Executive Director, Project Manager, and Financial Manager
- -Travel Costs:\* 1) To Quincy to provide updates to local government and other interested organizations-44 miles roundtrip, 4 trips = \$102.08; 2) To Sacramento to provide updates and distribute lessons learned to other agency personnel 300 miles round trip, 2 trips = \$348.00; 3) Additional funds to conference(s)/workshop(s) yet to be determined relevant to brownfield cleanup = \$580
- -Supply Cost: Supplies for miscellaneous office needs including but not limited to, printing, postage, phone, and computer supplies = \$500
- -Other Cost:1) Sub-award to Sierra Streams Institute(SSI) to advise project and assists with project oversite and management = \$3,000

#### Task 2: County Stakeholder/Community Engagement and Outreach

- -Personnel Costs: \$32,760 for SI staff to lead this task.
- -Travel Costs\*:1) To Quincy to provide updates and facilitate public engagement with local community members, government, and other interested organizations- 44 miles roundtrip, 3 trips =\$76.56; 2) Travel around various sites in Plumas county to collaborate and engage with community members 8 trips @ 50 miles RT= \$232
- -Supply Cost: Supplies for outreach meeting materials including printing and expenses associated with informational handouts=\$1,500
- -Other Cost:1) Sub-award to SSI to advise and participate in community outreach and county stake holder engagement efforts =\$4,500

## **Task 3:** Inventory, Prioritization, and Initial Findings and Recommendations for Plumas County Brownfield Sites

-Personnel Costs: \$38,580 for SI staff to lead and carry out this task. Create inventory, prioritize sites, and develop findings and recommendations report

-Travel Costs\*:1) To Quincy to provide updates and facilitate public engagement with local community members, government, and other interested organizations- 44 miles roundtrip, 48 trips =\$204.80; 2) Travel around various sites in Plumas county to collaborate and engage with community members/ county stakeholders, visit sites and collect data for inventory and prioritization – 50 trips @ 50 miles RT= \$1,450-Other Cost:1) Sub-award to SSI assist in this task = \$11,400; 2) Sub-award to Plumas County to assist in this task = \$26,340

**Task 4:** Assessments: -Personnel Costs: \$14,760 for SI staff to oversee, coordinate, and assist with this task out this task. -Travel Costs\*:1) To Quincy to provide updates and facilitate public engagement with local community members, government, and other interested organizations- 44 miles roundtrip, 3 trips =\$76.56; 2) Travel around various sites in Plumas county to collaborate and engage with community members/ county stakeholders, visit sites and collect data for inventory and prioritization – 40 trips @ 50 miles RT= \$1.160-Other Cost: Sub-award to SSI lead and complete assessment tasks as follows: 1) 6 Phase I assessments @ \$5,000 each = \$30,000; 2) 2 Phase II assessments/site investigations @\$35,000 each = \$70,000; 3) 2 Remedial Action Workplans @ \$10,000 ea = \$20,000; 4) Multi-site Sampling analysis plan and quality assurance plan =\$5,000; and 5) Travel expenses (milage and lodging) for Subaward to carry out this task =\$9,530

c. measuring environmental outputs: The key outcomes of success for this project will include: inventory of brownfield sites in Plumas County (Task 2 and 3), prioritization of sites for redevelopment (Task 2 and 3), completion six Phase I- and two-Phase II site assessments, completion of two remedial action workplans and initial findings and recommendations report for brownfield remediation in Plumas County. The Sierra Institute has identified established a redevelopment model which is being implemented at their Crescent Mills brownfield site. Hence, another measure of success will be not only a characterization and a cleanup but a framework for future utilization selected sites. Sierra Institute will also engage with interested organization to either take lead or assist further navigation of the EPA brownfield assessment and cleanup process. Another anticipated outcome of success is increased awareness by the local community for the project. This will be tracked through attendance at community meetings and site tours over time, as well as involvement and active participation of attendees at these events.

#### PROGRAMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

This Assessment Grant will be managed by a program lead, with overall oversight by an executive director/program director. SI's financial manager will be responsible for managing finances and submitting invoices to the EPA's invoicing system.

For over 25 years, SI has successfully managed a variety of local, regional, and national projects, along with local and regional networking projects. The organization has been engaged in forest restoration and rural community development issues since it was launched in 1992, and has actively focused on woody forest biomass utilization as an integral part of reducing risk of catastrophic wildfire, creating local jobs, and improving the ecological condition of forests since 2009. SI is active in state and federal policy discussions, and works with multiple community organizations and businesses involved in the development of community-scale biomass utilization.

Dr. Kusel is the founder and the Executive Director of SI. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California Berkeley in natural resource sociology and policy, and a Masters of Forest Science from Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. He has led the organization since its inception, and worked to help rural communities thrive by bringing people and ideas together to improve socioeconomic conditions and natural resource management. He conducted pioneering work to develop the concept and assessment of community capacity. Dr. Kusel led both the community assessment and public involvement teams for the Congressionally funded Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project during which he developed a new approach to assessing rural community well-being.

Danielle Berry is involved in the collaborative forestry and biomass utilization initiatives at SI. Ms. Berry currently serves as the Project manager for ongoing cleanup efforts at Crescent Mills and will continue to serve this role. She received her Master's in Environmental Policy and Management from University California Davis and has over five years of professional experience in a variety of natural resource fields.

Prior to joining SI, she served as the environmental compliance specialist for a design build contractor constructing a 22-mile segment of the California High Speed Rail. Ms. Berry is experienced in managing projects, budgets, contractors, field crews and timelines for a variety of projects and is also knowledgeable in a variety of environmental compliance permitting and project implementation processes for local, state, and federal agencies.

Acquiring Additional Resources To date, SI has successfully secured contractors and subrecipients to implement assessment and cleanup activities supported through funds identified in Table 1. A subrecipient (SSI) and multiple contractors have been active in SI previous site assessment and cleanup efforts and will continue. SI will conduct cost analysis and create new contracts for all new product and service needs in accordance with procurement provisions of 2 CFR Part 200.

Past Performance and Accomplishments: Currently Has or Previously Received EPA Brownfields Grant SI served as a subaward on a Site-Specific Assessment grant held by the Plumas County Community Development Commission and played a lead role in project implementation including: project management and reports, community engagement, and coordinating assessment activities. SI has also received two EPA Brownfields Grants (2018 and 2020) and has been successful managing cooperative agreements and remediation from the awards for multiple brownfields sites. Assessment and remediation funding is enabling the revitalization of a former lumber mill into the wood products campus described herein and is helping to create local sustainable jobs.

Accomplishments Utilizing funding secured to date, SI and partners successfully completed a variety of site assessments/characterization reports allowing cleanup to be completed on 6 acres with and additional 3 acres to be completed by the summer of 2021. Additional outcomes include public engagement efforts (meetings, news bulletins, etc.) that increased awareness of Property cleanup and redevelopment and resulting in widespread support for it throughout the county. These outputs and outcomes are reflected in the Assessment Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES). SI also serves as a lead entity in community assessment and socioeconomic redeployment within Plumas County and other rural communities of the Sierra.

Compliance with Grant Requirements SI has maintained compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions under the past assessment grant held by the county and current cleanup grants held by SI. Many outputs for the project have already been completed or are ongoing including: 1) quarterly performance reports, contractor selection documentation, Regulatory oversight reporting, ACRES reporting; 2) creation, distribution, and documentation of public engagement materials; and 3) documentation of Addressing Changing Climate Concerns in the Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives, and assessment/cleanup.

Progress towards achieving expected results has been documented in quarterly reports and updated in ACRES. A report for FY Quarter 4 for all current awards will be submitted on October 31st, 2020 and SI is working to complete the grant closeout report for the County assessment grant.

Sierra Institute is not a current EPA Assessment Grant recipient. Sierra Institute has served as a sub-awardee on an EPA Site Assessment Grant ( Grant # 99T61701) awarded to the Plumas County Community Development Commission (PCCDC) to inventory, characterize, perform hazardous substance site assessments and cleanup planning for a former sawmill site in Crescent Mills, California. As of October 31st, 2020, this award will have been expended and completed with only \$0.77 remaining. The PCCDC may provide financial records upon request.

SI's open Cleanup Grants started July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and end October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 and October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 respectively. Remaining funds will be used to continue remediation efforts on the sites identified in the Grant Agreements.



#### FY2021 EPA Brownfield Assessment Application

#### **Threshold Criteria**

- **1. Applicant Eligibility:** Sierra Institute for Community and Environment is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Documentation of tax-exempt status (Articles of Incorporation) is included in the narrative attachments.
- 2. Community Involvement: During this project, the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment and the County will collaborate to ensure that the local community and stakeholders are aware of the project and engaged if desired. Public meetings will be held to provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions or raise concerns. The project team will also hold meetings to educate others on not just the EPA-funded assessment work but also on the proposed plans for redevelopment at these sites. See the Task 2 work description in the Narrative for more information.
- **3. Expenditure of Assessment Grant Funds:** Sierra Institute is not a current EPA Assessment Grant recipient. Sierra Institute has served as a sub-awardee on an EPA Site Assessment Grant ( Grant # 99T61701) awarded to the Plumas County Community Development Commission (PCCDC) to inventory, characterize, perform hazardous substance site assessments and cleanup planning for a former sawmill site in Crescent Mills, California. As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, this award will have been expended and completed with only \$0.77 remaining. The PCCDC may provide financial records upon request.
- 4. Additional Threshold Criteria for Site Specific: N/A

ENDORSED FILED

In the office of the Secretary of State of the State of California

OCT 2 71997.

#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

BILL JONES, Secretary of State

I

The name of this corporation is Forest Community Research.

ΤĬ

- A. This corporation is a nonprofit **PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION** and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for public purpose.
- B. The specific purpose of this corporation is to advance education and science.

#### Ш

The name and address in the State of California of this corporation's initial agent for service of process is:

Jonathan Kusel 1657 Diamond Mountain Road Greenville, CA. 95947

#### $\mathbf{IV}$

- A. This corporation is organized and operated exclusively for public purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code.
- B. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.

V

The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to public benefit purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private person. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code.

Jonathan Kusel, Incorporator

# CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

ENDORSED - FILED In the office of the Secretary of State of the State of California

JAN 3 1 2005

The undersigned certify that:

- 1. They are the **president** and the **secretary**, respectively, of Forest Community Research, a California corporation.
- 2. Article I of the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation is amended to read as follows: ,

The name of this corporation is Sierra Institute for Community and Environment.

- 3. ,The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the board of directors.
- 4. The corporation has no members.

We further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the matters set forth in this certificate are true and correct of our own knowledge.

DATE: 1-25-05

onathan Kusel, President

Ken Roby, Secretary



# CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The undersigned certify that:

- 1. They are the **president** and the **secretary**, respectively, of Forest Community Research, a California corporation.
- 2. Article I of the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation is amended to read as follows:

The name of this corporation is **Sierra Institute for Community and Environment**.

- 3. The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the board of directors.
- 4. The corporation has no members.

We further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the matters set forth in this certificate are true and correct of our own knowledge.

DATE: 1-25-05

Johathan Kusel, President

Ken Roby, Secretary

AUG 2 3 2002

FOREST COMMUNITY RESEARCH PO BOX 11 TAYLORSVILLE, CA 95983 Employer Identification Number:
91-1818166
DLN:
17053096779052
Contact Person:
MICHAEL A LUDWIG ID# 31470
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Our Letter Dated:
January 1998
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization that is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Your exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) is still in effect. Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for; or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon whitten or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free number shown above.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the addendum enclosed is an integral part of this letter.

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 12/31/2022

| Application for        | Federal Assista        | nce SF    | -424                 |           |            |   |              |  |   |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|------------|---|--------------|--|---|
| * 1. Type of Submiss   | ion:                   | * 2. Typ  | e of Application:    | * If R    | evision, s | select appropriat                       | e letter(s): |  |   |
| Preapplication         |                        | ⊠ Ne      |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| Application            |                        |           | ontinuation          | * Oth     | ner (Speci | ify):                                   |              |  |   |
| —                      | ected Application      | I —       | evision              |           |            | • |              |  |   |
| * 3. Date Received:    |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| 10/28/2020             |                        | 4. Appli  | cant Identifier:     |           |            |   |              |  |   |
|                        |                        |           |                      | _         |            |   |              |  |   |
| 5a. Federal Entity Ide | entifier:              |           |                      | 5b        | b. Federa  | al Award Identifi                       | ier:         |  |   |
|                        |                        |           |                      | В         | F          |   |              |  |   |
| State Use Only:        |                        |           |                      | •         |            |   |              |  |   |
| 6. Date Received by    | State:                 |           | 7. State Application | Ident     | tifier:    |   |              |  |   |
| 8. APPLICANT INFO      | ORMATION:              |           | •                    |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * a. Legal Name: S     | ierra Institue         | for C     | ommunity and Er      | nvir      | onment     | <u> </u>                                |              |  |   |
| * b. Employer/Taxpay   | yer Identification Nur | mber (EIN | N/TIN):              | * (       | c. Organi  | izational DUNS                          | :            |  |   |
| 911818166              |                        |           |                      |           |            | 2890000                                 |              |  |   |
| d. Address:            |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * Street1:             | 4438 Main St.          | P.O.      | Box 11               |           |            |   |              |  | 7 |
| Street2:               |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * City:                | Taylorsville           |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| County/Parish:         | Plumas                 |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * State:               | CA: Californi          | а         |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| Province:              |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * Country:             | USA: UNITED S          | TATES     |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * Zip / Postal Code:   | 959830011              |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
|                        |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| e. Organizational U    | Jnit:                  |           |                      | <u> </u>  |            |   |              |  |   |
| Department Name:       |                        |           |                      | l Di<br>□ | ivision Na | lame:                                   |              |  |   |
|                        |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| f. Name and contac     | ct information of p    | erson to  | be contacted on m    | atter     | rs involv  | ving this appli                         | cation:      |  |   |
| Prefix:                |                        |           | * First Nam          | e:        | Jonat      | han                                     |              |  |   |
| Middle Name:           |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * Last Name: Kus       | sel                    |           |                      |           | _          |   |              |  |   |
| Suffix:                |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| Title: Executive       | Director               |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| Organizational Affilia | tion.                  |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
|                        |                        |           |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |
| * Telephone Number     | " (500) 651            | .00       |                      |           |            | Fax Number:                             |              |  |   |
|                        | , ,                    |           |                      |           |            | rax inumber:                            |              |  |   |
| * Email: jkusel@s      | sierrainstitut         | e.us      |                      |           |            |   |              |  |   |

| Application for Federal Assistance SF-424                                       |
|---|
| * 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:                                |
| M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) |
| Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:                                     |
|   |
| Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:                                     |
|   |
| * Other (specify):  |
|   |
| * 10. Name of Federal Agency:   |
| Environmental Protection Agency   |
| 11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:                              |
| 66.818  |
| CFDA Title:   |
| Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements                       |
|   |
| * 12. Funding Opportunity Number:   |
| EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-06   |
| * Title:  |
| FY21 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANTS                                |
|   |
|   |
| 13. Competition Identification Number:  |
|   |
| Title:  |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
| 14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):                 |
| Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment                                |
|   |
| * 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:                                 |
| Sierra Institute Community Assessment Grant for Plumas County                   |
|   |
|   |
| Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.                |
| Add Attachments   |
|   |

| Application f  | or Federal Assis   | stance SF-424   |  |   |   |        |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|--------|
| 16. Congressio   | nal Districts Of:  |   |  |   |   |        |
| * a. Applicant   | CA1  |   |  | * b. Program/Projec   | CA1   |        |
| Attach an additio  | nal list of Program/Pro  | oject Congressional Districts   | s if needed.   |   |   |        |
|  |  |   | Add Attachment   | Delete Attachment   | View Attachment   |        |
| 17. Proposed P   | roject:  |   |  |   |   |        |
| * a. Start Date:   | 10/01/2021   |   |  | * b. End Date   | 09/30/2024  |        |
| 18. Estimated F  | unding (\$):   |   |  |   |   |        |
| * a. Federal   |  | 300,000.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * b. Applicant   |  | 0.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * c. State   |  | 0.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * d. Local   |  | 0.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * e. Other   |  | 0.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * f. Program Inco  | ome  | 0.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * g. TOTAL   |  | 300,000.00  |  |   |   |        |
| * 19. Is Applicat  | tion Subject to Revi   | iew By State Under Exect  | utive Order 12372 Pro  | cess?   |   | -      |
| a. This appl   | lication was made a  | vailable to the State unde  | r the Executive Order  | 12372 Process for re  | view on   | ].     |
|  | is subject to E.O. 12  | 2372 but has not been sel   | ected by the State for   | review.   |   |        |
| c. Program   | is not covered by E.   | .O. 12372.  |  |   |   |        |
|  |  |   |  |   |   |        |
| * 20. Is the App   | licant Delinquent O  | n Any Federal Debt? (If '   | "Yes," provide explan  | ation in attachment.)   | )   |        |
| * 20. Is the App   | licant Delinquent O  | n Any Federal Debt? (If '   | "Yes," provide explan  | ation in attachment.  |   |        |
| Yes  |  |   |  |   |   |        |
| Yes  | ⊠ No   |   | "Yes," provide explan  Add Attachment  | ation in attachment.  |   |        |
| If "Yes", provide  21. *By signing herein are true comply with an subject me to c  | this application, I complete and accy resulting terms if riminal, civil, or adratifications and assura   | certify (1) to the stateme<br>curate to the best of my<br>I accept an award. I am a<br>ministrative penalties. (U.  | Add Attachment onts contained in the lay knowledge. I also paware that any false, fis. S. Code, Title 218, Se  | Delete Attachment list of certifications* provide the required ictitious, or fraudule   |   | o<br>y |
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